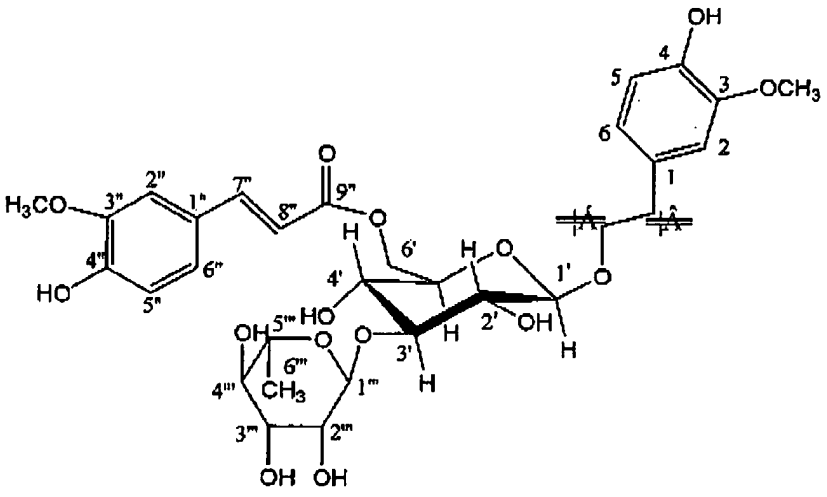
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A listing of the claims follows and replaces all prior listing of the claims.

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently amended): ~~A~~ An isolated compound named epimeredinoside A having formula I as follows:



I

Claim 2 (Currently amended): An oral pharmaceutical ~~Oral pharmaceutics~~ composition containing an ~~from~~ *Epimeredi indica* root extract, ~~comprising:~~

~~*Epimeredi indica* root extracts comprised of~~ from 0.10 to 1.50% by weight of epimeredinoside A, wherein the extract has been obtained by extracting Epimeredi

indica root ~~which have been extracted~~ with water and concentrated by distillation; and

at least one pharmaceutical adjuvant.

Claim 3 (Currently amended): The oral ~~pharmaceutics~~ pharmaceutical composition ~~from *Epimeredi indica* root extract~~ according to claim 2, wherein the ~~oral pharmaceutics have any form which is used orally including~~ composition is an oral form selected from the group consisting of hard capsule, soft capsule, granule, tablet, and oral liquid.

Claim 4 (Currently amended): A preparation method for preparing oral pharmaceutics from *Epimeredi indica* root extract, comprising:

making a powder of *Epimeredi indica* roots;

adding water to the powder in an amount of about 10 times that of the powder and extracting for a time ranging from 1 to 2 hours;

filtering to obtain a first filtrate and a first cake;

adding water to the first cake in an amount of about 10 times that of the first cake and extracting for a time ranging from 1 to 2 hours;

filtering to obtain a second filtrate and a second cake;

combining the first filtrate and the second filtrate to provide a combined filtrate;

concentrating the combined filtrate as *extracta sicca* to a density ranging from 1.01 to 1.08(25~30) and a content of epimeredinoside A ranging from 0.10 to 1.50%

as determined by ~~HPLC~~HPLC;

drying the *extracta sicca* by spray or vacuum of; and

mixing predetermined quantities of the dried extract and at least one adjuvant ~~to prepare oral pharmaceutics conventionally by one of wet or dry granulation~~.

Claim 5 (Currently amended): The preparation method according claim 4, wherein the content of epimeredinoside A in the dried extract of *Epimeredi indica* root is determined by HPLC, which comprises the steps of:

a. providing (1) an HPLC apparatus, (2) a Standard sample of epimeredinoside A, (3) HPLC grade chemical reagents incuding methanol, acetonitrile, and distilled water, and (4) extracts of *Epimeredi indica* root

b. operating the HPLC apparatus under conditions including (1) using a Chromatographic column: Discovery C_{18} (250mm ×4.6 mm, 5μm), (2) using a mobile phase which is a mixture of acetonitrile and water having an acetonitrile: water ratio of 27:73, (3) using a flow rate of 1.0ml/min, (4) using a column temperature which is room temperature, and (5) using a detection wavelength of 320nm, and (6) using an injection volume of 20μl;

c. generating a calibration curve by (1) preparing standard solutions of epimeredinoside A having respective concentrations of 39.6 μg/ml, 79.2 μg/ml, 118.8 μg/ml, 158.4 μg/ml, and 198 μg/ml; (2) subjecting each standard solution to HPLC quantitative analysis; (3) generating a calibration curve to confirm a linear relationship between peak area ratio (Y axis) and the concentrations of the standard solutions (X axis);

d. preparing test samples; and

e. subjecting the sample solutions to the HPLC quantitative analysis;

f. determining the content of epimeredinoside A in the test samples from the calibration curves using, as a formula for calculation, Y=20.139X-154.35, where Y is peak area and X is sample concentration (μg/ml).

Claim 6 – 18 (Cancelled)